

## EXHIBIT A

From: <Chad.Terrell@bakerbotts.com>  
To: <robert.sheppard@eds.com>  
Date: 12/17/2003 6:18 PM  
Subject: CLAM Patent Application (Your file 70-03-002; our file: 014208.16 35)  
Attachments: 70-03-002 Pat. App., 014208.1635.DOC; declaration Sheppard 014208.1635.DOC;  
assignment Sheppard 014208.1635.DOC; Sheppard letter.pdf; CLAM Drawings.pdf

Hi Robert,

Attached are an explanatory letter, the patent application with drawings, and two documents for signature. There have been no changes to the patent application or drawings since the previous version I sent. I would, however, appreciate a suggestion as to a replacement phrase for references to "PRE" in the application and drawings.

As requested in the letter, please review the application as soon as possible to confirm that it is correct and complete. If everything is in order in that there are no changes to the application (other than as they relate to "PRE"), please sign and date the formal documents and return them to me via facsimile and the original signed documents via Federal Express, so that I can file them with the USPTO. If you have any comments or changes other than those relating to "PRE," please let me know before signing the documents and I will send you a revised version.

Again, EDS would like to file this application as soon as possible, so I would appreciate it if you could give this your immediate attention.

If you have any questions, please let me know.

Thanks,

Chad

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